

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: **Atsushi TAKAHASHI**

Filed: **2/23/2006**

Appl. No.: **10/524,991**

Examiner: **MAI, HAO D**

Conf. No.: **3219**

Art Unit: **3732**

Title: **SPONGE PROPHY**

Date: **July 6, 2009**

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed on **March 6, 2009**, Applicant respectfully requests that the above-identified application be reconsidered in view of the remarks that follow, that each of the pending claims be allowed, and that the application be passed to issue.

REMARKS

Present Status of Application

Claims 1, 3-8, and 10 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Deady et al (2,265,804, hereinafter "Deady") in view of Politzer et al (2,804,728, hereinafter "Poltitzer"). Claims 2-4 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Deady in view of Politzer, and in further view of Hirota et al (JP 2002053469, hereinafter "Hirota"). Claims 1 and 9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over St. Cyer (US 5,042,840, hereinafter "St. Cyer") in view of Politzer.

Reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested in light of the following remarks.